



THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF TEXAS

JIM MATTOX
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 20, 1990

Ms. Linda Ibach Shaunessy
Assistant Attorney General
Finance Division/Insurance
Banking and Securities Section
Supreme Court Building
Austin, Texas 78711-2548

OR90-452

Dear Ms. Shaunessy:

You received a request under the Texas Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V.T.C.S., for a press release concerning State of Texas v. Risk Managers International Inc. You ask whether this information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act. Your request was assigned ID# 10476.

We have considered the exception you claimed, specifically 3(a)(3), and have reviewed the documents at issue. A previous determination of this office, Open Records Decision No. 162 (1977), a copy of which is enclosed, resolves your request. As pointed out in Open Records Decision No. 162, section 14(a) of the Open Records Act provides as follows:

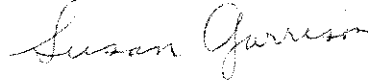
This Act does not prohibit any governmental body from voluntarily making part or all of its records available to the public, unless expressly prohibited by law; provided that such records shall then be available to any person. (Emphasis added.)

Since you have voluntarily made the press release available to members of the media, it is now available to any person, including the requestor. You must release it to him.

Because a prior published open records decision resolves your request, we are resolving this matter with

this informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. If you have questions about this ruling, please refer to OR90-452.

Yours very truly,



Susan Garrison
Assistant Attorney General
Opinion Committee

SG/le

Ref.: ID# 10476

Enclosure: Open Records Decision No. 162
Press Release

cc: Hector De Leon
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